

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, every child deserves to be cared for in a safe and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, safe and healthy childhoods help produce confident and successful adults; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect often occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and not knowing how to cope; and

WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure every family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, no one person can do everything, but everyone can do something, and together we can create change for the better; and

WHEREAS, dialing the DSHS toll-free number 1-866-ENDHARM makes it easier to protect the vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, displaying a pinwheel or blue ribbon in April will serve as a positive reminder that together we can prevent child abuse and keep children safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2009 as

Child Abuse Prevention Month

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 25th day of March, 2009

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

